

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Storrer et al.

Attorney Docket No. INJS-1-1003

Serial No .:

10/785,383

Group Art Unit:

3749

Filing Date: February 24, 2004

Examiner:

Lu, Jiping

Title:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR REMOVING MOISTURE FROM WATER

LADEN STRUCTURES

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted with this letter is

- (1) a response to Restriction Requirement
- (2) a petition for extension of time
- (3) check no. 14692 for \$225 and
- **(4)** a return postcard.

Direct all communications to:

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Respectfully submitted,

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MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via first class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.08 on the date indicated below addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Applicant:

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND RECONSIDERATION OF RESTRICTION **REQUIRMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.43**

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. In an Office Action dated May 19, 2005, Claims 1-18 are subject to a restriction and/or an election requirement. The Examiner indicates that the application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species of the claimed invention, as illustrated by Figures 3A, 7, 8A, 9, 11, 12, and 13A, respectively. The restriction requirement is traversed for the reasons set forth below. Nevertheless, the Applicant provisionally elects the first embodiment of "Figs. 11, 12, and 13A", directed towards Claims 6-9, 11-16, and 18 for prosecution and reserves the right to file a divisional application on the nonelected embodiments identified as "Figs. 3A, 7, 8A, and 9", directed towards Claims 1-5, 10, and 17.

Applicant hereby respectfully traverses the restriction requirement. The first and second embodiments of the claimed design are merely different configurations of the same device, that device being a system for removing moisture from water laden structures. As shown in Figures 5 and 11, the system lays down a grid on a wet floor with a floor plate thereon, the floor plate having a plurality of barbed nozzles for receiving tubing from a vacuum source. Thus, the two configurations (i.e. embodiments) are obvious variations of one another to one ordinarily

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816 Second Avenue Seattle, Washington 98104 206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301 skilled in the art. Thus, the embodiments are not separate and distinct inventions and the restriction requirement must be rescinded.

If there are any questions regarding this application, or any matters that may be handled by telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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